

I'd like to take this opportunity to share some thoughts about the tenth anniversary of the September 11 attacks. Ten years ago our nation faced a day of heartbreak – but one that revealed the bravery and resolve of our citizens. On that day we saw the face of bravery – in those who fought off hijackers on United Flight 93 in the face of certain death, in the police and firefighters who raced into the World Trade Center Towers and Pentagon as people fled, and countless others who joined the cause to help those in need. The unity that bound our nation together after that tragic day should be something to which we always aspire. In the months and years following September 11th, our men and women in uniform and in the intelligence community have worked tirelessly to protect our nation – we owe them a debt that we can never fully repay.

Thanks to them we have seen many of those responsible brought to justice – including the face of radical jihadists, Osama Bin Laden. It is because of their work and sacrifice, both abroad and here at home, that we have uncovered and denied dozens of murderous plots, removed terrorist sanctuaries, and find ourselves safer than we were a decade ago.

As we approach the anniversary of September 11th we honor those we lost that day. We have not forgotten, we have not wavered, and we will not succumb to the captivity of fear. I have no doubt that our nation will triumph over radical jihadists and continue to boldly exhibit the character and strength that makes the United States a beacon of freedom across the globe.

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